University of the State of New York Bulletin

Entered as second-class matter August 2, 1913, at the Post Office at Albany, N. Y., under the act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 18, 1918

Published Fortnightly

No. 1172 ALBANY, N. Y. September 15, 1939

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The Bookmark

A Selection of Recent Books Issued Five Times a Year by the Book Information Section

January 1940

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THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

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Announcement

The Bookmark which has been published as a department of *New York Libraries* from November 1926 to August 1939 appears with this issue as a separate bulletin. It will be published five times a year, in January, March, May, August and November. The August number of each year will be the annual selection of children's books; the remaining issues will be devoted to a selection of current books for adults.

The New York State Library has sponsored booklists for the aid of the libraries of the State regularly since 1898 when *Best Books of 1897,* an annotated selection of 250 books of the year, was published. This bulletin was issued each year through 1926, when the decision was made to send information on books to the libraries of the State at more frequent intervals and *Best Books* with the selection for 1925 ceased publication. Beginning with the November 1926 number of the quarterly *New York Libraries,* generous space was allotted to the new State Library list, with its title changed to *The Bookmark.* For the hospitality extended to the list and for the helpful cooperation of Asa Wynkoop, then editor of *New York Libraries,* and for the continuance of this same generous and cooperative spirit on the part of the succeeding editors, Dr Frank L. Tolman, Mary B. Brewster and L. Marion Moshier, the editors of *The Bookmark* wish to express their appreciation.

This current issue of *The Bookmark* thus restores the list to its earlier status as a State Library bulletin with somewhat increased frequency of publication. Designed as in the past to be of assistance in book selection to the libraries of the State, it will strive to maintain its usual high standards and to keep in mind at the same time the need of recommending books of timeliness, general interest and value.

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The BOOKMARK

"In proportion as society refines, new books ever become more necessary."

BOOK INFORMATION SECTION
MARY EASTWOOD, *Head of section*

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY
ANNE S. JENKS, *Assistant*

Good nonfiction

For reference use

†**Opdycke, J. B.** Don't say it; a cyclopedia of English use and abuse. Funk $5 **428.3**

In this selective manual of 850 pages, "about twenty thousand terms are presented from the points of view of spelling, pronunciation, use or meaning. They have been culled from newspapers, magazines . . . radio and platform talks and classrooms etc., and represent the words persons of average intelligence use . . . or may wish to use." Adapted from author's *Foreword.*

Religion

Bernhart, Josef. The Vatican as a world power; tr. by G. N. Shuster. Longmans $4 **282**

Interpretive history of the Papacy written by a Catholic of finished and profound scholarship whose calmness, intellectual integrity and grasp of political and personal realities place it in the tradition of Acton and Ranke. The author has shown admirable skill in selecting his materials, a true sense of proportion in exhibiting them. The book, of particular interest to non-Catholics, concludes with an interesting description of the administrative machinery of the Curia. Adapted from the *Spectator,* Mar. 24, 1939, p. 494.

Feiwel, T. R. No ease in Zion. Knopf $3.75 **296**

Preceding this brilliant portrayal of Zionism in Palestine, its origin, development and problems, is a brief history of the Jews. Distinguished by vigor of style, penetrating insight into the psychology of Jews, Arabs and British and by colorful, frequently ironic sketches of various leaders. Excellent photographs. Index.

Economics, political economy etc.

Benes, Eduard. Democracy, today and tomorrow. Macmillan $3 **321.8**

This competent history of democracy in Europe discusses with detachment, the World War and its influence on the democratization of Europe, the downfall of the postwar democracies in Europe, the League of Nations as an expression of democratization and the reasons for its decline, and modern authoritarian ideologies. Permeated with an inspiring philosophy, the book concludes with a moving chapter in which the author, the former president of Czechoslovakia, predicts democracy's final triumph.

Democracy, contends the witty Jacques Barzun, in his *Of human freedom* (Atlantic Monthly Press books, Little $2.50 **323**) is cultural, an *experience* of the individual. Since the absolute of good government is unattainable, the pragmatic theory must be applied and tasks near at hand should be undertaken which can make at least locally and temporarily for the good life. A thought-provoking book, applying its philosophy not only to government but to art, science, the social sciences, education and psychology.

† Indicates books which while written for adults are suitable also for use in high school libraries.

†Brooks, R. R. R. Unions of their own choosing. Yale Univ. Press $3 **331.8**

Timely, judicial consideration of the National Labor Relations Board, its origin, its dealings with typical industrial cases, with strikes, interunion conflict, unfair practices of labor, together with a study of the board's relation to the courts and its influence upon democracy. Bibliography. Index.

†Bryson, Lyman. Which way America? (People's lib.) Macmillan 60c **335**

Democracy in the United States, fascism in Germany and Italy, communism in Russia — what are their basic beliefs and what are their effects on an individual's freedom? Clear, fair-minded answers to these questions are given in this useful, informal discussion.

Carr, Albert. Juggernaut, the path of dictatorship. Viking Press $3 **321.6**

Vivid portrayals of the personality, characteristics and significance of each of 17 dictators from Richelieu and Cromwell to the present are accompanied by analyses of the conditions which evoked them. The author discovers in the events leading to dictatorships a general pattern which he uses as a basis for an illuminating discussion of the prospects of democracy in America. Portrait drawings. Index.

McWilliams, Carey. Factories in the field. Little $2.50 **331.7**

It is of "the hidden history" of land monopoly and exploited farm labor that Mr McWilliams tells as well as of the actual conditions which he investigated early in 1939 in the capacity of California commissioner of immigration and housing. His book, prepared before the publication of *Grapes of wrath*, but complementing it admirably, is written with alert awareness of the many dangers implicit in California's farm labor situation. Bibliography.

Science, natural and applied

Bernheim, B. M. Medicine at the crossroads. Morrow $2.50 **610**

The associate professor of surgery at Johns Hopkins University considers frankly and honestly, for the benefit of the laity and the medical profession alike, the predicament in which medicine finds itself today because of changing social and economic conditions. Pertinent chapters discuss private practice, fee splitting, group practice, associated hospital service, health insurance and the ethics of the profession. Appendix presents certain principles and proposals.

Heiser, Victor. You're the doctor. Norton $2.50 **610**

The author's vivid personality and anecdotes of his experiences in public health work throughout the world animate these authoritative suggestions on diet, foods, nutrition, vitamins, digestion, colds etc. Not a medical handbook but a collection of readable chapters embodying the latest knowledge on topics relating to health and hygiene.

†Hylander, C. J. World of plant life. Macmillan $7.50 **580**

"The natural interests of the average American at home and vacationing in our summer and winter playgrounds, have been the criterion for the inclusion of material" in this ambitious, nontechnical, well-rounded survey of the whole plant kingdom by the assistant professor of botany at Colgate University. A valuable feature of the book is the collection of more than 400 excellent photographs and line drawings. Check list of species, reference reading list. Index.

W. C. L. Muenscher's *Poisonous plants of the United States* (Macmillan $3.50 **581**), takes up in detail by families all the vascular plants of the United States that are known to cause poisoning and includes description, distribution and habitat, poisonous principle and conditions of poisoning. Fully illustrated with drawings from the plants by Mrs Helen Hill Craig. References, index.

Edible wild plants by O. P. Medsger (Macmillan 3.50 **581**) presents the more important edible wild plants embracing species from nearly all of the chief orders of flowering plants in the United States and Canada. The author, emeritus professor of nature education, Pennsylvania State College, not only describes each plant and its habitat but tells also how to prepare it for table use. A "finding index" is offered in place of a key. Eighty pen and ink drawings and 19 photographs. General index.

†**Nice,** *Mrs* **M. M.** Watcher at the nest. Macmillan $2 **598.2**

Days on end, this author has been a patient, sympathetic and enthusiastic observer of the habits of birds. Two particular song sparrows that returned to her garden many years are the "heroes" of several of these informal and entertaining chapters. Attractive pencil drawings by Roger T. Peterson, art editor of *Bird lore*. References. List of scientific names of birds mentioned in the text.

†**Pope, C. H.** Turtles of the United States and Canada. Knopf $3.75 **598.1**

Primarily about the habits of turtles, this book, the only one in print on turtles of the United States, also includes life histories, keys and diagnostic descriptions. The 99 photographs are remarkably clear and in most instances the animal is seen against its natural background. Bibliography. List of turtles with common and scientific names. Index.

†**Saint Exupéry, Antoine de.** Wind, sand and stars; tr. from the French by Lewis Galantière. Reynal $2.75 **629.13**

"A pilot's business is with the wind, with the stars, with night, with sand, with the sea," nevertheless the author, a French aviator, for eight years an airline pilot, is equally concerned with the spirit that animates men of courage, with man's groping toward truth, and with his self-fulfilment. A blend of philosophical meditation and the recital of thrilling adventures of flight, this book is beautifully and poetically written. Decorations in color by John O'Hara Cosgrave II.

Scheinfeld, Amram. You and heredity. Stokes $3 **575.1**

Popular, interesting introduction to genetics. The author, a layman who has had the aid of scientists and other authorities, present in a forthright way the outstanding facts about heredity which are applicable to human beings, and points out their possible significance to both individual and society. Historical appendix, suggestions for reading, index.

Fine arts

†**Craven, Thomas,** *ed.* Treasury of art masterpieces. Simon $10 **750**

Notable, representative collection of 144 paintings from Giotto in the thirteenth century to Grant Wood in the twentieth, reproduced in full color from new photographs of the originals. On pages facing the pictures, there are brief illuminating, critical and stimulating annotations which "establish each work in time and place." At the price, an excellent investment for libraries and for personal ownership, although in occasional instances the reproduction of color is not wholly satisfying to the expert.

Draper, *Mrs* **Dorothy.** Decorating is fun! how to be your own decorator. Doubleday $2.79 **747**

Original, practical and spirited book on interior decoration for the woman who wants her home to express her personality and to be a source of pride and delight. The author, a stylist and designer, has innumerable suggestions for every room in the house or apartment, under such chapter titles as Backgrounds; Color; Walls, doors and fireplaces; Floor coverings and curtains; Lamps and accessories. Sketch drawings, photographs. Bibliography, index.

†**Low, David.** Cartoon history of our times. Simon $2 **741**

The wit and penetration of a great political cartoonist are exemplified in this collection of nearly 100 of his full-page drawings which deal with political and international situations from the depths of the depression to the collapse of the Munich Accord. Quincy Howe, editor of Simon & Schuster, has written a factual commentary for each of the cartoons.

Literature

Block, *Mrs* **A. C.** The changing world in plays and theatre. Little $2.75 **808.2**

Keen, discriminating discussion and analysis of the modern plays most noteworthy for their integration with contemporary life. Beginning with Ibsen and Hauptmann, the author interprets the dramas of modern playwrights under such topics as changing sexual standards, conflicts within the individual, social conflict, anti-war, the new social order as seen in the plays of Soviet Russia. Appendix. Index.

Duggan, Eileen. Poems. Macmillan $1.50 **821**

In his appreciative introduction, Walter de la Mare calls attention to this New Zealand poet's "pure poetic impulse," as she writes in her lyrics of the direct experience of her own body, mind and spirit.

Eliot, T. S. The family reunion; a play. Harcourt $1.50 **812**

This powerful, poetic version in blank verse of the ancient Aeschylean theme of the Eumenides has as its scene a birthday celebration in a modern family of northern England. In episodes which are tense and at the same time ironic and subtle, the inheritance of a curse is disclosed and a solution, which reverses that of the ancient myth, is evolved for its expiation.

Hard, Walter. Vermont valley. Harcourt $2.50 **811**

More of the poet's little stories of Vermont character and life, told in free verse and introducing the speech of the people, laconic, pithy and with a tang of dry wit.

†Millay, E. St V. Huntsman, what quarry? Harper $2 **811**

Emphasizing once again a preoccupation with love and death, this collection of sonnets and lyrics is distinguished, as always, by the music and rhythm of Edna Millay's words and the magic of her imagery. Several poems are concerned with world events, the fate of Czechoslovakia, of Spain and of the world today.

White, E. B. Quo vadimus? or, The case for the bicycle. Harper $2 **817**

Few of the insanities and inanities of the world today escape the author's discerning eye. In these 37 essays, through parable and prophecy, skit and parody, he reduces to the absurdities they are a number of trends and tendencies, such as the brilliant suggestion to digest the digests in superdigests to be called *Core* or *Nub*; and the ten-point plan for a planned society in which some months shall be devoted to inflation, others to deflation. Articles appeared, with few exceptions, in the *New Yorker*.

History

†Beard, C. A. & Beard, M. R. America in midpassage. (v. 3 of *Rise of American civilization*) Macmillan $3.50 **973**

Although complete in itself this is also an able and comprehensive continuation of the Beards' *Rise of American civilization* (New ed. 2v. in 1, Macmillan $3.75). Opening with "The golden glow" of President Coolidge's administration, it ends in 1938 after skilfully marshalling the economic and political events of these years and reviewing the activities, trends and influence of the period in the theater, movies, literature, art, science and social thought. The point of view is liberal, fair-minded and sympathetic to the New Deal's economic and sociological aspects, but critical of President Roosevelt's foreign policy. Index.

†Borkenau, Franz. The new German empire. Viking Press $2 **943**

Clear-cut, informed survey of Germany's limitless plans for expansion through a fascist revolution, analyzing the importance of Austria, the Sudetenland, Poland and other encircling countries, as well as her interests in Africa and Latin America. The author, a German liberal in exile, is convinced that Germany is aiming at world domination, but that in this she is destined to fail. Map on end papers.

The revolution of nihilism (Alliance Book Corp. $3 **943**) is written by Hermann Rauschning, a former leader of the National Socialist party, to warn the world that Nazism is pure nihilism with no definite doctrine of philosophy except the will to destroy. Doctor Rauschning, a refugee, paints an increasingly somber picture of Nazi progress. Although he believes the Nazis seek to conquer the entire universe, he foresees for them no ultimate triumph. Adapted from T. R. Ybarra in *New York Times*, Sept. 3, 1939, p. 1.

Not always easy reading but a highly important book.

In *Inside Germany*; translated by A. S. Lipschitz (Dutton $3.50 **943**) the author, A. C. Grzesinski, describes the course of events in Germany in the past half-century, including the undermining of the republic and the state of affairs today. Grzesinski, a social democrat now in exile, relates also his own experiences as an official in various outstanding positions under the repub-

lic, his opinions of leading personalities and his convictions as to the devastating effects of Nazism.

In the famous political tract *Mein kampf;* complete and unabridged (Reynal $3 **B** *or* **92**) Adolf Hitler has revealed his program for Germany and above all his own mind, character and spirit. In spite of his *volte-face* in regard to Russia, the book is of the greatest consequence in showing the significance and the seriousness to the whole world of Nazi aims and philosophy. Translated by an editorial board under the auspices of the New School of Social Research, from the first German edition (v. 1, 1925; v. 2, 1927), and helpfully annotated. Index.

†**Carmer, C. L.** The Hudson. (Rivers of America) Farrar $2.50 **974.7**

Arranged in chronological order, from the time of the Indians and the first settlers on to the present, these entertaining chapters are concerned with the history and the lives of the people of the Hudson valley, with dramatic and picturesque episodes and stories of highly individual personalities. Constance Lindsay Skinner's essay "Rivers and American folk" is included. Map frontispiece, and lithographs by Stow Wengenroth. Bibliography, index.

†**Gunther, John.** Inside Asia. Harper $3.50 **950**

Informative, readable "study of that development of nationalism known as Imperialism," sketching both old and new imperialisms: the Dutch in the East Indies, the French in Indo-China, the Americans in the Philippines, the Japanese in Manchukuo and China, and the British almost everywhere. Among the fascinating portraitures are those of the Emperor of Japan, Chiang Kai-shek, the Soong sisters, Manuel Quezon and others. Frontispiece map. Bibliography, index.

†**Sheean, Vincent.** Not peace but a sword. Doubleday $3 **940.5**

A witness, from March 1938 to March 1939, of the success of the "Fascist will-to-conquer" in Spain and Czechoslovakia, Sheean, deeply sympathetic with the victims, describes not only events of political and military importance but ordinary civilian life, as well as his own and other foreign correspondents' experiences in the midst of warfare.

Description and travel

†**Capek, Karel.** Travels in the North; tr. by M. & R. Weatherall. Macmillan $2.25 **914.8**

One of the few magical travel books, this is an account of a journey through Sweden, Denmark and Norway. The narrative, amusingly illustrated by Capek's drawings, is distinguished by his original and spontaneous way of writing, his remarkable ability for graphic, sparkling description, and by the warmth and humor of his personality. Colored frontispiece.

†**Gibson, Hugh.** Belgium. Doubleday $3.50 **914.93**

For a number of years American ambassador to Belgium, the author knows the country intimately. An advocate of sensible and enjoyable sight-seeing, he brings in a background of history, while pointing out the essential things to see in various cities, and in odd corners of the country, where to dine and what regional dishes to ask for. A miscellany of information in appendixes. Full-page photographs. Map on end pages. Index.

†**Hindus, Maurice.** We shall live again. Doubleday $3 **914.37**

Hindus went to Czechoslovakia in June 1938 and visited cities and villages while the country was at the height of its glory, and then saw its civilization crumble in the September days of doom. These events Hindus records, as well as conversations with the Czechs about education, industry, politics, and their attitude during and after the great catastrophe. Map on end papers.

Lockley, R. M. I know an island. Appleton-Century $3 **914.2**

The restoration of a house and barn on a long uninhabited Welsh island began a Robinson Crusoe existence for the author, an ornithologist, and his bride. In delightful fashion, he tells of salvaging a wrecked schooner and of studying and banding migrating birds as well as of trips to islands near and far. Always the interest is in birds and in the way of life of the people on other small islands. Photographs, maps, diagrams.

†Roosevelt, Hall, & McCoy, S. D. Odyssey of an American family; an account of the Roosevelts and their kin as travelers from 1613 to 1938. Harper $3.75 **910.4**

Twenty-one episodes, relating in attractive way and with frequent side-lights on American history, the wanderings of various Roosevelt "cousins" as they crossed the seas, engaged in business or peril, in war, in whaling, in the gold rush. Illustrations are reproductions of contemporary prints, facsimiles of handwriting etc. Appendix presents genealogical information. Map on end papers.

†Shepard, Odell. Connecticut, past and present. Knopf $3.50 **917.46**

A sympathetic and understanding interpretation of Connecticut and her people, for which the author has "ranged freely up and down the centuries," walked several thousand miles along the state's highways, lanes, trails and paths, and conversed with men and women and children wherever the chance offered. Map on end papers, photographs. Index.

†Whitman, Willson. God's valley; people and power along the Tennessee River. Viking Press $3 **917.68**

All the aspects and ramifications of the reclamation of the Tennessee valley by the T. V. A. are presented here in an informal, popular style made the more vivid by the author's wit and whimsy. Twenty excellent photographs, map on end papers. Appendix, index.

Biography

Abbott, E. C. & Smith, H. H. We pointed them north. Farrar $3 **B** *or* **92**

From the time he was 11, "Teddy Blue" Abbott worked with the cowpunchers, and before he was 19 he was a top cowhand. This, his own story told in his own language to Helena Smith, is a frank authentic picture of the life on the trail and the open range in the seventies and eighties, centering in Teddy Blue himself. Maps, photographs. Index.

Baker, S. J. Fighting for life. Macmillan $2.75 **B** *or* **92**

An absorbing and withal an exhilarating account of Doctor Baker's pioneering in the field of child hygiene, and of the evolution of the different phases of the work during her years of service, as chief of the New York Bureau of Child Hygiene. Photographs. Index.

Carlyle, Jane. **Scudder, Townsend.** Jane Welsh Carlyle. Macmillan $3.50 **B** *or* **92**

A rewarding introduction to the lives of the brilliant, delightful, variable Jane Welsh Carlyle and her famous husband, to their domestic menage and to their many friends, men and women who "came to sit in admiration at Mr Carlyle's feet, and remained in devotion at his wife's." Based largely on the 20 published volumes of the Carlyles' correspondence, and on Carlyle's *Reminiscences,* the narrative is given authentic atmosphere by extensive use of paraphrase and direct quotation. Photographs. Bibliographical note, index.

Lamb, William. **Cecil, E. C. D.,** *lord.* Young Melbourne. Bobbs $3 **B** *or* **92**

Urbane and brilliant study of the complex character of William Lamb up to his middle years. Designed and molded from childhood for great position by his mother, the ambitious Lady Melbourne, he was influenced as well by clashing tendencies in his own nature and by his unfortunate marriage with the wilful Caroline Ponsonby, whose scandalous affairs, chiefly with Byron, set her outside the pale of the dazzling Whig society of the late eighteenth century. Portraits. List of chief events and of authorities. Index.

†Lin, Adet, & Lin, Anor. Our family. Day $2 **B** *or* **92**

The diaries of the two young daughters of Lin Yu-t'ang (Adet, 16, and Anor, 13), published without alteration. Their frank, spontaneous and naïve remarks admit the reader to the intimate life of the family at home and abroad, and to the children's opinions on everything from their father's hobbies and habits, to the Japanese invasion of China. Original pen and ink sketches by Anor.

Mottram, R. H. Autobiography with a difference. Appleton-Century $3.50 **B** *or* **92**

"The glamour of the past" pervades these warmly luminous memories of the English author's childhood in a world, now vanished forever, that was a "golden age," at least for the lucky little boy living in a household of serenity where everyone had a full daily job, and did it. Sixteen pencil drawings by A. H. Mottram, and photographs.

Phelps, W. L. Autobiography with letters. Oxford Univ. Press $3.75 **B** *or* **92**

Having squeezed the last ounce of enjoyment and excitement out of life, whether at work or play, traveling or engaged in good conversation with agreeable people, William Lyon Phelps is able to carry over his keen and zestful spirit into his recollections and anecdotes of such friends as Galsworthy, Barrie, Conrad, Emma Eames and countless other writers, actors, singers and professors. Letters from his correspondents are frequently included. Photographs. Index.

†**Tarbell, I. M.** All in the day's work. Macmillan $3.50 **B** *or* **92**

Chiefly concerned with the whys and wherefores of Miss Tarbell's working life from the days when she was a member of *McClure's* staff, on to her still active eighties. A clear, forthright chronicle by a woman who has always given up "security" for freedom, and who has been deeply interested in the problems of industry and government. Photographs. Index.

Villard, O. G. Fighting years. Harcourt $3.75 **B** *or* **92**

For long, editor of the *New York Evening Post* and later, of the *Nation*, Villard has been constantly behind the scenes in politics and in touch with political leaders and presidents. Although somewhat diffuse, the chronicle of his career is absorbing because he has always been in the thick of things and because of his fearless fights for the victims of oppression, injustice or cruelty. Photographs. Index.

Fiction

Buchanan, George. Entanglement. Appleton-Century $2.50

A cross section of London life, from the society woman, the wealthy business and club man, the young intellectual, to the working man and girl, acutely observed from March 1937 to April 1938. Fear of impending war is seen gradually modifying their various characters and their entangled emotional relationships, as they go their way in business and society.

Fisher, Vardis. Children of God. Harper $3

Cast in the form of a novel, this is essentially an epic picture of the amazing inception and growth of the Mormon church under two great leaders, Joseph Smith, the prophet and founder, and Brigham Young, the organizer. The author, of Mormon descent, glosses over neither misdeeds of the Mormons nor the brutality of their enemies, as he depicts with sweeping strokes the trek west, or minutely envisages domestic conflicts resulting from plural marriage. Map on end papers.

Forester, C. S. Flying colours. Little $2.50

The Napoleonic Wars are still in progress and Captain Horatio Hornblower is perched uneasily between the horns of a dilemma; as a prisoner he is on his way to Paris for trial for piracy, and if he escapes a firing squad, he is sure to face court-martial in England for hazarding the *Sutherland* in a battle against quadruple odds. His miraculous escape and the events leading up to his recapture of an English ten-gun cutter, prize of the French, afford the author opportunities for as breath-taking descriptions of thrilling moments as did *Beat to quarters*, and *Ship of the line*. The three titles may be obtained in an omnibus volume, *Captain Horatio Hornblower*, (Little $2.75), illustrated by N. C. Wyeth.

Fry, *Mrs* **D. W.** The Priory. Macmillan $2.50

Saunby is an English estate where once a flourishing priory served God and the people. Major Marwood, the present owner, is fast letting the place deteriorate because he is impractical and lazy and cares for nothing but cricket. Of all the family, it is young Christine, his daughter, who feels a deep bond with the Priory, and through

whom the estate is at last restored to something of its original purpose. While rich in comic character and situation, lights and shadows mingle, as they do in life, in this attractive chronicle.

Godden, Rumer, *pseud.* (*Mrs* **Laurence Foster).** Black narcissus. Little $2.50

The exotic, rarefied air of the Himalayas penetrates this story of a small group of Anglican nuns newly settled in a convent, formerly a general's pleasure palace, on a high ledge facing Himalayan winds and snows. How the strange pagan environment and unusual experiences affect each of the Sisters, and how a year's efforts to teach and heal the natives come to naught is related in a portrayal impressive for its beauty, poignancy and insight.

Golding, Louis. Mr. Emmanuel. Viking Press $2.50

Friendship and sympathy for Bruno, a despairing Jewish boy, uprooted from his home in Germany and a refugee in England, cause old Mr Emmanuel, an English citizen of Russian Jewish extraction, to enter Germany in search of news of the boy's missing mother. The terrible things that befall the kindly, retiring old man at the hands of the Nazis, and how, though broken physically but spiritually triumphant he returns to the boy, are described with a tender concern for all the Mr Emmanuels and Brunos of this beleaguered world.

Goudge, Elizabeth. The middle window. Coward $2.50

Bored with being "one of the peas in London society's pod," Judy Cameron carries her family and doting fiancé to Scotland for a vacation in a house they rent from the young laird of Glen Suilag. To Judy this new world does not seem unknown, and she feels she is stepping not forward but back. Why this is so, is revealed in a romantic, fanciful tale interweaving the present with the time of the young Pretender.

Groseclose, E. E. Ararat. Carrick $2.50

Their young men murdered by the Turks in 1895, a group of Armenians led by an American missionary, Amos Lyle, escapes into the traditional Garden of Eden, at this time under the rule of Russia. How in the shadow of Ararat, Amos tends his flock, watching his foster-daughter grow into a lovely woman and how after the revolution the two are joined in their care of hundreds of orphan children by a young aristocratic Russian, is the theme of a quiet but moving story.

Heyward, Du Bose. Star spangled Virgin. Farrar $2

For reasons unknown to himself, Adam had let himself be led into the bonds of matrimony, and away from St Croix where he had been living contentedly, without benefit of clergy, with Rhoda and their children. What happens to Adam, when, tired to death of his strong-minded wife, he sails back to St Croix and again encounters the irresistible but embittered Rhoda, and with her and the other Negroes of the island bows to the vagaries of "Noodeal," as offered them by its emissaries from Washington, is hilariously depicted in this satiric comedy. Drawings by Theodore Nadejen.

Household, Geoffrey. Rogue male. (Atlantic Monthly Press bks) Little $2

Having been caught with his gun trained on the terrace of the mountain retreat of a certain foreign dictator, a wealthy English big game hunter escapes, more dead than alive, only to be pursued by the dictator's secret agents back to England where he attempts to disappear forever. More thrilling than a detective story, this *tour de force* traces in his own words, every motive, every ingenious plan, every cunning move and every change in the mental and physical condition of the Englishman, as he turns into a solitary, hunted animal, "a rogue" attempting to elude the pursuit of the pack.

†Merrick, Elliott. Frost and fire. Scribner $2.50

Swinging through the seasons of many years, Jan has fished and trapped and hunted, always dreaming of independence from the Labrador trading company that keeps men ever in its debt. Jan's love for a girl who fishes and traps like a man, their marriage and journeys together and his final triumph over the company fit easily into a graphic portrayal of life in Labrador, with its dangers and vicissitudes.

Rosman, A. G. William's room. Putnam $2

Pleasant little story about two neighboring English families into whose lives comes a young widow as a "paying guest." That this charming, sensitive woman has something in her past to conceal, and that her new friends suspect this makes for doubts and confusion until a young girl's perspicacity discovers the cause of her masquerade in time to make a happy marriage possible.

Steinbeck, John. Grapes of wrath. Viking Press $2.75

Piled into an old truck with a few household necessities, an Oklahoma family, dispossessed of their home by a ruthless land company, starts for California, lured by handbills which promise work. The painful, absorbing and unforgettable story of the futile odyssey of these people, as they are driven hither and yon, hungry, bewildered, hated, becomes a searing indictment of actual existing conditions. Because of the occasional introduction of the earthy and gross, this outstanding book is one that each library may desire to consider before purchase.

Thane, Elswyth, *pseud.* **(***Mrs* **William Beebe).** Tryst. Harcourt $2.50

The real and supernatural are blended with sensitivity and charm in this romantic love and ghost story whose setting is a large mansion in rural England.

†Thirkell, Angela. The Brandons. Knopf $2.50

Amusing English comedy centering in a likable group of people so comfortably situated that they care not at all when their relative, the wealthy Miss Brandon, an indomitable, bad-tempered old pagan, threatens regularly to cut them out of her will.

Vance, Ethel, *pseud.* Escape. Little $2.50

An engrossing novel, exciting in its brilliantly sustained suspense, and equally brilliant for its insight into the hearts and minds of people whose initiative is being crushed by German dictatorship. In the dangerous act of helping a fine, vibrant, warm-hearted woman escape the prison hospital where she awaits execution for treason, a young prison doctor and an American-born Countess, long a Nazi general's mistress, find exquisite relief in escaping the mental bondage imposed by the government.

Wodehouse, P. G. Uncle Fred in the springtime. Doubleday $2

The doting pride of Lord Emsden in his prize pig, the thwarted love affairs of two young couples, and Pongo Twistleton's dire need of "touching" some one for 200 pounds, are responsible for the antics of this ludicrous comedy, but it is the involved attempts of the lighthearted, unscrupulous Lord Ickenham ("Uncle Fred") at dispensing sweetness and light that complicate the plot and bring it to a hilarious conclusion.

Mystery and detective stories

Brown, *Mrs* **Zenith. (Leslie Ford, David Frome,** *pseuds***).** Mr Pinkerton at the Old Angel. Farrar $2

Carr, J. D. (Carr Dickson, Carter Dickson, *pseuds***).** Problem of the green capsule. Harper $2

——— The reader is warned. Morrow $2

Connington, J. J., *pseud.* **(A. W. Stewart).** Counsellor. Little $2

DuBois, Theodora. Death dines out. Houghton $2

Marsh, Ngaio. Overture to death. Furman $2

Tilton, Alice. Cold steal; a Leonidas Witherall mystery. Norton $2

Warren, J. R. Murder from three angles. Furman $2